













# A MESSAGE TO A HOMELESS VETERAN

February 1, 1946

You are home from the wars. You fought for your country and now you want the things that every American wants — a job and a good home.

You should have that home. You are entitled to it, but there just isn't enough money to go around, may be you're wondering why somebody doesn't do something.

What we have to say to you isn't going to be easy. Nor is it going to be easy for you to take. We believe, however, that you would rather have it "straight" than to be kidded.

So here it is, straight from the shoulder:

There is no way by which the building business, the government, the President, the Congress of the United States or anyone else, can provide this year all the homes you and the other people of this country want. No amount of money appropriated by Congress can do it.

Several hundred thousand homes are going to be built, of course. Maybe you'll be one of the lucky ones to get one. The building industry, working with the government, will do everything in its power to supply veterans' needs first. Even so, a lot of you boys are going to be disappointed.

"But why?" you ask. "Why can't we build a million homes this year?" "Let's get the assembly lines going again, prefabricate them, use the wartime airplane plants. Whatever you need to do, let's do it. But let's build homes quick!"

We wish it were that easy. We already have a lot of prefabricating plants making homes and they're no better off than any other home builder because they too can't get toilet bowls, bathtubs, lumber, etc.

If you do not get your new home this year, it will be for the same reason that a lot of you will not be able to buy a refrigerator, or an automobile, or nylon hose, or white shirts, or a suit of clothes. There aren't enough materials coming out of the factories.

Remember, the manufacturers of building materials and equipment went through the same war that the automobile people did. For 3½ years, while you were fighting on the shooting front, the building industry along with other industries was working with might and main to build and maintain the huge war plant on the home front. We found out with automobiles, nylons and refrigerators, it takes time to convert. The building industry was not allowed to start reconversion until after the Japanese war was over. We've had our share of strikes and labor troubles too.

The war ended in August but home building restrictions were not lifted until October 15, 1945, less than four months ago. Yet home builders did their part; in the first 60 days they started over 125,000 homes. Many of them are not completed yet because we can't get materials, equipment and labor enough. Yes, the builders did their part, but they couldn't compete with the military. Don't let anybody tell you we fell down on the job. Good as you were as a fighting man, the best in the world, even the Japs had to turn down until you got the materials.

But once you got the stuff, Germans, Japs and nobody else could stop you. Same way with the building industry. Gradually we're clearing away the bottlenecks giving home builders the green light. Gradually we're getting more and more stuff every day, and more and more homes are being completed, more and more are being started. By the end of this year we'll be going at a million-a-year clip, and you'll have your home.

We in the building industry foresee that this crisis would happen. We urged the government long before the end of the war to let us get our plants and plans in shape. We'll see that you get a home when you got back. The government said "No!"

Well, maybe that was all right. You were fighting a tough war and you needed the stuff. But it meant the building industry could not be ready for you when you got home. We'll see that you get a home faster than anybody else can get it for you.

But what you and we should really be afraid of is that amateur tampering with so complex a thing as the building business, may prolong the home shortage unnecessarily. This could easily happen if, instead of putting all our energies on breaking the real bottleneck, we allow ourselves to be stampeded into impractical visionary schemes to produce houses by the million when there won't be materials and equipment enough to produce more than half that many this year, unless obstacles are removed.

Some of the ideas that are being advocated by well meaning men are so dangerous that they might upset our entire economy for years to come and delay home building indefinitely.

You don't want this to happen because it would hurt you and all the rest of the people of the United States, and it wouldn't get you the home you want.

You can help prevent it if you will remember that housing, like a lot of other things, is a war casualty, and that only common sense and an all-out attack on the real bottlenecks will cure it.

What are the bottlenecks?

We've already mentioned a shortage of materials. But much of this shortage is due to OPA. We're not suggesting that all price control be removed. We are suggesting that OPA stop standing in the way of production of more materials and equipment. We are suggesting that OPA stop thinking in terms of war, "reconvert," and start thinking in terms of peace and production.

One of the most serious shortages we have is in sanitaryware, plumbing supplies, radiators and the like. OPA for some time has had dozens of applications for price adjustment in this industry alone. They haven't done anything at all about them. In the meantime, manufacturers can't get labor, because they can't afford to pay enough.

You've heard about the lumber shortage. Lumber mills are producing lots of lumber but not much of the kind that's used in homes. Why not? Largely because OPA is still operating on a wartime basis, allowing higher prices on non-home lumber and on lumber for export. These are just two of many examples.

Right there is bottleneck No. 1

Bottleneck No. 2 is labor in the field. As you know, the boys were slow in coming back and those that did, often went on other than home-building jobs. We've done something about that by giving home builders priorities on materials for veterans' homes. This will mean less general construction and so more labor will be available to build homes.

When these two bottlenecks—production and labor—are cleared away, homes will go up fast.

When we read daily about the unhappiness of thousands of veterans who can't find a home of their own, our emotions are apt to run away with us. The President says there are 5,000,000 homes needed immediately. Wilson Wyatt, our new housing chief, says 2,500,000. Thoughtful studies by economists of the Producers' Council (manufacturers) put the figure at about 850,000.

No one really knows what's correct. But just five years ago the building industry could find customers for only 450,000 homes. It is reasonable to suppose we desperately need 5 million?

It is important to the welfare of the people of the whole nation that you and we do some very straight thinking on this problem.

There are 6,000,000 people dependent on the building industry for a living. Perhaps you are one of them, or your brother, your father, your uncle. It is the second largest industry in the country. Let's be very careful how we monkey with the machinery that makes it run, lest our monkey wrench slip and we find we've wrecked the machinery that provides jobs for 6,000,000 people.

That wouldn't do you any good.

Suppose we set up assembly lines all over the country to produce houses by the million. It wouldn't help you NOW because the real bottleneck isn't home building capacity, it's material and equipment. And there is every assurance that, if we did produce millions of homes in this way, they would not be the kind of homes you want, and that they would cost more. There is this fact, however:

Hundreds of thousands of carpenters, bricklayers, plumbers, electricians and other workmen, all of whom now earn their living building homes, would not have jobs. In the meantime, thousands of other workmen would have to be recruited from the already scarce ranks of labor in this country, trained and taught new skills and new techniques to build house panels in government factories. Maybe you've forgotten how long it took to work out assembly line techniques for airplanes and tanks, and that was in wartime when nobody cared how much it cost and how much sacrifice it entailed.

It would take years to build a new giant industry to produce the millions of factory-made homes everyone so glibly talks about.

In the meantime, we have ready at hand anxious to get going, a home building industry capable of producing a million — yes, a million-and-a-half — homes a year. We built 937,000 in one year, as far back as 1925, and did five billion dollars of other building besides. The labor and materials that went into this five billion dollars of non-residential building was the equivalent of another 900,000 homes.

You don't have to wait for a new giant industry to be created from scratch. You don't have to risk wrecking our existing economy while waiting for a new type of industry. You won't have to live in a "housing project" which is not the American ideal of a home.

The building industry, working with the government, is clearing away the wartime bottlenecks as fast as possible. By Fall we can be building at a million-homes-a-year pace, or better.

You'll have your new home as fast as you'll have your new car.

Practical Builder

59 E. Van Buren St., Chicago 5

● ANTHONY LUMBER CO.

● HEMPSTEAD COUNTY LUMBER CO.

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● HOPE BUILDERS SUPPLY CO.

Thursday, March 28, 1946

## 3 Stars of Cardinals on Sick List

By United Press  
St. Petersburg, Fla., March 27.—Three vital cubs in the St. Louis Cardinals' baseball machine—Catcher Roy O'Neil, and Pitchers Dennis White and Ted Williams—were unable to play today because of injuries sustained in a game last night.

White, who has been ineffective this spring after returning from a two-year hitch in the army, was sent to St. Louis for dental treatment by Dr. Robert P. Hyland, the club's surgeon. The 33-year-old catcher, bothered by a scintilla leg condition, has been unable to catch although he has been in camp for three weeks.

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**Yern Stephens May Jump Browns to Play in Mexico**

Long Beach, Calif., March 28.—(UP)—Yern Stephens, of the St. Louis Browns, announced today that he was leaving the team to play in Mexico.

Stephens, 29, is a right-handed pitcher, 6 feet 4 inches tall, and weighs 175 pounds. He has been with the Browns since 1934, and has a record of 10-10 with a 3.00 ERA.

Stephens was born in St. Louis, Mo., and attended St. Louis University. He was drafted by the Browns in 1934, and made his major league debut in 1935.

Stephens was acquired by the Browns from the St. Louis Cardinals in a trade in 1934. He was a member of the Cardinals' 1934 championship team.



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Includes Five Essentials and Instruction Booklet for easy skin care.

Other sizes:

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- Ardena Skin Lotion, .85, 2.00, 3.75, 9.00, 15.00
- Ardena Orange Skin Cream, 1.00, 1.75, 2.75, 4.25, 8.00
- Ardena Antiseptic Oil, 2.50, 4.00, 7.50
- Ardena Featherlight Foundation, 1.00, all prices plus tax

**JOHN P. COX DRUG CO.**

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Make the "comparison test"—a cup of Admiration against any cup in the world—and your taste will be convinced. You'll learn at the first sip why more people in the Southwest enjoy Admiration than any other brand. It's delicious, it's satisfying, it's wonderful!

**Oklahoma Aggies Head U. S. Cagers**

By TED MEIER

New York, March 28.—(UP)—The Oklahoma Aggies topped all other college basketball teams during the 1946 season, an Associated Press tabulation showed today.

Based on a win-loss percentage, the Oklahoma Aggies, coached by Ben Carneal, are the top team in the nation with a record of 28-1.

The Aggies' record is based on 11 games played in the 1946 season, including a 31-0 record in the Big Six conference.

The Aggies' success is attributed to their strong defense and their ability to score in the paint.

**Tall Players Pose Problem for Rules**

Detroit, March 28.—(UP)—The tallest players in basketball today are posing a problem for the rules of the game, according to a report from the National Basketball Association.

The NBA is considering changes to the rules to accommodate the increasing height of players. The average height of a player in the NBA is now 6 feet 7 inches, up from 6 feet 4 inches in 1940.

The NBA is also considering changes to the three-point line and the key to make the game more exciting.

**Thirsty or Not You'll Enjoy**

**Crappette**

Contains 602

**Want Trustee of Wilson Removed**

Little Rock, March 28.—(UP)—Lee Wilson and company have been removed as trustee for the vast castles and plantations-mercantile establishment.

The removal was announced by the state court, which found Wilson and company guilty of mismanagement of the trust.

The trust was established in 1934, and Wilson and company have been managing it since that time.

**JOHN P. COX DRUG CO.**

Phone 616-617

**Women's AAU Tourney in Semi-Finals**

St. Joseph, Mo., March 28.—(UP)—All four teams which were on hand tonight for semifinals in the annual Women's AAU basketball tournament.

The semifinals were held at the St. Joseph Armory, and the winners will advance to the finals tomorrow night.

The teams competing in the semifinals were St. Joseph, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Springfield.

**Mrs. E. D. Galloway Heads Women's Christian Service**

Pine Bluff, March 28.—(UP)—Mrs. E. D. Galloway of Little Rock, Ark., is the head of the Women's Christian Service in Pine Bluff.

The service is a voluntary organization that provides food and clothing for the needy in the community.

Galloway has been leading the service since 1940, and it has been very successful in its efforts.

**Does Distress Or Periodic FEMALE WEAKNESS**

**MAKES YOU FEEL "A Wreck On Such Days"**

Do you suffer from monthly cramps, headache, dizziness, nervousness, or any of the other symptoms of female weakness? If so, you need a reliable remedy.

The remedy is a natural product that has been used for centuries to relieve the symptoms of female weakness. It is safe, effective, and easy to use.

**Oaklawn Entries for Friday**

First Race—12:00; mares, 3 yos; 6 furs, 10 fms, 12 fms, 14 fms, 16 fms, 18 fms, 20 fms, 22 fms, 24 fms, 26 fms, 28 fms, 30 fms, 32 fms, 34 fms, 36 fms, 38 fms, 40 fms, 42 fms, 44 fms, 46 fms, 48 fms, 50 fms, 52 fms, 54 fms, 56 fms, 58 fms, 60 fms, 62 fms, 64 fms, 66 fms, 68 fms, 70 fms, 72 fms, 74 fms, 76 fms, 78 fms, 80 fms, 82 fms, 84 fms, 86 fms, 88 fms, 90 fms, 92 fms, 94 fms, 96 fms, 98 fms, 100 fms.

**Oaklawn Entries for Friday**

Second Race—12:30; mares, 3 yos; 6 furs, 10 fms, 12 fms, 14 fms, 16 fms, 18 fms, 20 fms, 22 fms, 24 fms, 26 fms, 28 fms, 30 fms, 32 fms, 34 fms, 36 fms, 38 fms, 40 fms, 42 fms, 44 fms, 46 fms, 48 fms, 50 fms, 52 fms, 54 fms, 56 fms, 58 fms, 60 fms, 62 fms, 64 fms, 66 fms, 68 fms, 70 fms, 72 fms, 74 fms, 76 fms, 78 fms, 80 fms, 82 fms, 84 fms, 86 fms, 88 fms, 90 fms, 92 fms, 94 fms, 96 fms, 98 fms, 100 fms.

**Oaklawn Entries for Friday**

Third Race—1:00; mares, 3 yos; 6 furs, 10 fms, 12 fms, 14 fms, 16 fms, 18 fms, 20 fms, 22 fms, 24 fms, 26 fms, 28 fms, 30 fms, 32 fms, 34 fms, 36 fms, 38 fms, 40 fms, 42 fms, 44 fms, 46 fms, 48 fms, 50 fms, 52 fms, 54 fms, 56 fms, 58 fms, 60 fms, 62 fms, 64 fms, 66 fms, 68 fms, 70 fms, 72 fms, 74 fms, 76 fms, 78 fms, 80 fms, 82 fms, 84 fms, 86 fms, 88 fms, 90 fms, 92 fms, 94 fms, 96 fms, 98 fms, 100 fms.

**Portland Cement Association**

907 Syndicate Trust Bldg., St. Louis 1, Mo.

A national organization to improve and extend the use of concrete in all phases of construction.

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**Fabrics for Easter at OWEN'S**

For the woman who has discriminating taste and is handy with the needle, these fabrics will be a boon. Weaves, patterns, and colors galore in the finest quality the mills can produce. Choose your Easter-to-summer wardrobe here today.

**German War Potential Struck Down as Nation's Scale of Living Is Reduced by Half**

Berlin, March 28.—(UP)—A plan to eliminate Germany's war potential while retaining only enough to maintain a minimum standard of living is being adopted by the Allied powers, according to a report from the United Nations.

The plan is based on the idea that Germany's war potential is directly related to its standard of living. By reducing the standard of living, the Allied powers can reduce Germany's war potential.

**ON SALE Saturday, 10 a. m. 120 PAIRS Sheer RAYON HOSE**

42 and 45 gauge

89c to 1.08 a pair

LIMIT ONE PAIR TO A CUSTOMER

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Sliced Thin by The Editor

Alex. H. Washburn

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WHAT CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT ADMINISTERED TO THE OFFICE TO NINE PRESIDENTS?

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**Father and Son Die on Same Gallows**

Washington, March 28.—(UP)—The navy learned with the army that the draft act beyond May 15.

The navy learned that the draft act beyond May 15, and the army learned that the draft act beyond May 15.

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